

2/2 COMMANDO Courier

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EDITORIAL

Probably one of the worst phrases of modern day conversation is "I couldn't care less". We have probably all been guilty of using it at some time or other and, when you come to think of it, it sums up the general attitude of modern society.

"I couldn't care less" — what we are really saying is "I don't care at all". If only we could stop repeating this ugly phrase and instead say "I couldn't care **more**", perhaps this old Earth might be a better place in which to live.

We can't do much personally to solve the problems of a troubled, uneasy world, but if we all did a bit more about caring — for ourselves, our friends, our jobs, the man in the street, the underprivileged, the sick, the weary, the mean and the ugly — maybe, just maybe, some of these problems might melt away.

Here is an example of someone who cared, one of our own members, Archie Campbell, and a band of kids who, when faced with adversity, cared enough to work and strive and succeed. It is the story of caring and courage. This is an extract of a letter written by Arch to the Association:—

"...Thought too, I should give an account of my stewardship of the Crossing family, that is Warwick's youngsters, now they have all finished their secondary education.

When I volunteered to look after them on Perth Legacy's behalf 16 years ago, Roma Crossing had five children under the age of nine years and was completely bereft. Roma died tragically on the 23rd December

1968 leaving five double orphans to be cared for.

The youngest, Barbara, was six years of age. Now Susan is married, Sally recently completed a Nursing Aide course so efficiently she will be able to sit for her nursing exams.

Ralph is in the Army, somewhere in Queensland. Robert, who was Captain of Christ Church Grammar School in 1978, a brilliant scholar too, has just commenced his second year at the University of Western Australia. Barbara, who spent seven years at St. Mary's C of E Girl's School, finished on a high note being Senior Boarder and Deputy Head Girl. She gained sufficient points to win an entrance to Murdoch University in this year, 1980.

There were some rough passages, but it was a really rewarding experience and I felt the unit boys should know of the outcome of something that concerns us all, for they are five youngsters, independent, each with their own special talents. They are well equipped to cope with the next decade.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Anzac Club on Tuesday, 1st April, 1980

The President declared the meeting open at 8.05 p.m. and asked all present to stand and face the Honour Roll in remembrance of departed comrades.

PRESENT: G. MacKenzie, R. MacDonald, J. Carey, H. Sproxton, J. Fowler, C. Varian, A. Blundy, A. Wares, L. Bagley.

APOLOGIES: G. Maley, D. Fullarton.

CORRESPONDENCE

It was moved L. Bagley, seconded J. Carey, that correspondence as tabled be received. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As there was no official Treasurer as yet, and as Mr. Hancock the retiring Treasurer was in hospital, Mr. Wares submitted the amount of money he had received for donations during the month and also the expenditure.

It was moved that Mr. Carey call at Mr. Hancock's home and collect all the books as they will be required for Anzac Day. Carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr. Wares reported on a phone call from Angus MacLachlan re the proposed raffle for the 1981 Safari.

It was moved L. Bagley, seconded A. Blundy that we give Queensland our full support. Carried. The prize which has been allotted for the raffle to be published in the Courier with a strong request that we give it the support that it deserves.

The President reported on the complete breakdown of the Courier

Addressing Machine. The Editor reported that there were no parts available, and after stripping it down Roneo Company were unable to supply parts as the machine is so obsolete. It was moved C. Varian, seconded J. Carey that we purchase a satisfactory addressing machine. Carried. Suggestion that we place an advert. in the Sunday Times to see if one was available second hand.

It was suggested that the President approach Mr. Kirkwood re the position of Treasurer.

ANZAC DAY

Mr. G. Fletcher to attend to the purchase and laying of the wreath for the Dawn Service in King's Park. Carried.

The President and Mrs. Mackenzie to attend the Service at the R.S.L. Homes in Mt. Lawley on 24th April at 3.00 p.m. Carried.

It was moved L. Bagley, seconded J. Fowler that the charge per head for the luncheon at the Clarendon Hotel after the march be \$6. Carried.

Mr. Sproxton apologised for non-attendance at the next two meetings as he will be out of the State.

Mr. Bagley reported that he had been in contact with a printer who could produce an 8 page Courier for \$150. It was decided to look into the matter by the President and Editor. Mr. Bagley also to get a price for a reprint of Address Book.

There being no further business the President declared the meeting closed at 9.22 p.m. and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Anzac Club on Tuesday, 5th May, 1980

The President declared the meeting open at 8.05 p.m. and asked members to stand and face the Honour Roll in memory of departed comrades.

PRESENT: G. MacKenzie, G. Maley, A. Blundy, D. Turton, J. Fowler, L. Bagley, G. Fletcher, J. Carey, A. Wares. The President welcomed Bill Petersen who was on holiday from Victoria.

APOLOGIES: H. Sproxton, A. Campbell.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed on motion of J. Fowler, seconded J. Carey.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Position of Treasurer was discussed and Mr. Maley said that he understood that he had been appointed at the Annual General Meeting and not just as a fill in position until someone was appointed. This was a misunderstanding and the President was pleased that Mr. Maley accepted the position.

Mr. Bagley submitted the quotes that he had received from Barron Press for the printing of the Courier and a new Address Book. A sub-committee of the President, Treasur-

er and Editor was appointed to look into the matter and report their findings to a future committee meeting, on the motion of G. Maley and seconded J. Carey and carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Maley submitted the report as at 5th May, 1980.

Receipts

Donations	\$443.00
Anzac Day	397.00
Transfer T&C	397.00
Badges	2.00
Tie Bars	2.00
Car Stickers	1.25
Refund Stamp Duty	1.60
Balance B/Fwd.	241.30
TOTAL	\$1688.15

Payments

Annual Meeting	\$ 21.08
Postage Courier	36.90
Printing Courier	260.00
Clarendon Hotel	224.00
Catering Anzac Day	125.00
Addressing Machine	350.00
Plates & Fluid	157.00
G.P.O. Box fee	45.00
Safari Inserts	12.00
Wreath, Dawn Service	18.00
	1248.98
Cr. Balance	439.17
	1688.15

It was moved D. Turton seconded J. Fowler that accounts as submitted be passed for payment. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Received from M.S. Richards, A. MacLachlan, Bellevue Sub Branch R.S.L., 2/4th Association.

Business arising from correspondence. On the motion of L. Bagley seconded J. Fowler, that an article be published in the Courier re the appeal by the Bellevue Sub Branch for funds and members send their money direct to the "Blackboy Hill Commemorative Site Advisory Committee" c/o Bellevue R.S.L. Purton Place, Bellevue, W.A.6056.

Moved L. Bagley seconded A. Blundy that correspondence as tabled be received. Carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

That a reminder be placed in the Courier re members being in hospital and for members to pay them a visit.

Mr. Turton suggested that a barbecue be held on his property at Keysbrook in September and be advertised in the August issue of the Courier. The President, Mr. Maley and Mr. Carey to visit the area prior to the date.

Mr. Bagley and Mr. Fletcher to pick up our bowls mat and felt plus bowls from the Wembley Floreat R.S.L. as the building has been sold.

There being no further business the President closed the meeting at 9.45 p.m.

WEST AUSTRALIAN NEWS

MT. LAWLEY

Please find enclosed a cheque to help keep the Courier circulating to all members, it is a magnificent vehicle of communication from any angle.

Our unit association must be the best of its kind in existence, keeping every member in close contact via the written word and giving countless opportunities for big and happy reunions right across Australia.

Best wishes to all, special congratulations to Harry Botterill on his Life Membership of our Victorian Branch it was thoroughly deserved.

Warmest regards, Archie Campbell.

(It was great to hear from you and thanks for the interesting information about the family of our late member Warwick Crossing. You certainly did a great job looking after

their interests. You must personally get a great deal of satisfaction knowing you have taken an interest in someone more unfortunate than yourself — Editor).

GERALDTON

It was my pleasure recently to have a chat with Eric Weller who was on a visit to Geraldton from Broome where he has been working for a building company for 15 months. They built 21 houses last year and are in the process of erecting several more homes. Eric has a new boat and has been catching many good size fish that abound in Nor West waters.

We also had the pleasure of a visit from Freddy Griffiths, who works for the Water Board. Nip Cunningham, Eric Smyth, Tom Foster and yours truly spent a delightful couple of hours drinking and chin wagging

with Freddy at the Victoria Hotel, which is conveniently situated two doors away from my A.B.C. office. Our discussions revealed among many other things that Eric Smyth has been catching some king sized fish during trips to the Abrolhos Islands. Eric's wife Twy is now occupying a very interesting position as Health Education Officer for an area extending from Carnarvon to Perenjori. Tom Foster has been obtaining excellent prices for export wethers. Nip Cunningham is cycling as well as ever and recently had the pleasure of a visit from daughter Fran and her husband from Goldsworthy.

Although yours truly has been enjoying bowls, most of my weekends will now be spent at football where I do the best and fairest voting for the Brigades Club. We have got away to a good start by defeating Railways by more than 5 goals. We have had another Brigades player at East Fremantle, Kim Hetherington, who was named his team's second best player in the game against Swan Districts. Graham Kickett is another Brigades player with Old Easts.

While on the subject of footie, I had the pleasure of seeing myself in two of the photos that appeared in the recent Geraldton Guardian newspaper Football Review. My brother Paddy and I were in the 1955 Mullewa team which won the Great Northern Carnival at Morawa at which I got the umpire's Best and Fairest top vote on the first day of the two day carnival. I was recently secretary to the Brigades Club which won the 1962 premiership at Geraldton. My son Ross is also in the photo and was also in the team that won the 1971 premiership.

I must be off now as duty calls. Kind regards to all the boys and let me end with the following poem which I reckon is a beauty.

EVOLUTION

From a monkey's point of view

Three monkeys sat on a coconut tree
Discussing things as they're said to be.
Said one to the others, now listen to me
There's a certain rumour that can't be true
That man descends from our noble race.
The very idea is a disgrace.

No monkey ever deserted his wife,
Starved her babies or ruined her life.
And you've never known a mother monk
To leave her babe with others to bunk,
Till they scarcely know who there mother is.
And another thing you'll never see
A monk build a fence round a coconut tree.
And let the coconuts go to waste
Forbidding all other monks to taste.
Why, if I put a fence round a tree
Starvation would force you to steal from me.

Here's another think a monkey won't do,

Go out at night and get on the stew.
Or use a gun or club or knife
To take some other monkey's life.

Yes, man descended — the 'ornery cuss,

But brother, he didn't descend from us.

KOJONUP

I would like to thank all the boys of the unit who came all the way to Kojunup to pay their last respects to Carol.

A special thanks to Peter Campbell who came and stayed with us for a few days. also Joe and Huddy.

I am a lot better now after being at Esperence with Peter and Pat for a couple of weeks. it has not dawned on me yet and I can't believe that she won't be back, and is only still away playing bowls or golf somewhere.

The kids have taken it very well, especially Jackie, and she is doing her best being housekeeper.

Had a long letter from Paddy Kenneally addressed c/o Peter Campbell, Esperence. Said his boy is now in W.A. and I hope he comes to see us.

Thanks, Scotty, for coming down and please excuse the writing as I find it so hard.

Regards to all, Tony Bowers.

P.S. Enclosed cheque for Courier.

PERTH

I know now how unreliable is my postal address c/o Poste Restante etc. If there has been a Courier published since the January edition would you please send it to the above

address. Will write to the Courier later.

Regards, Jim Ritchie.

CLOVERDALE

Just a line to say "Hello", at the same time I'd like to wish you all the best for the eighties, although I doubt if any of us has much left in him any more.

I tried my hand at finding some gold nuggets just before Christmas, but a lot of people had been looking before me and they did not leave much around as far as I could see. I'll have another go shortly so I may have better luck.

Meanwhile I am enjoying a few beers and hope you can all do the same and wishing you all good health.

Cheque enclosed, regards to all, Doc Wheatley.

GIBSON

Just a note to enclose cheque for the Courier.

Believe that you have not been well Scotty, so do hope that you are feeling alright now.

We see a lot of Ern Hoffman now. He has a racehorse down here and we are having six race meetings this year so I hope the horse comes good — has not done much so far, so here's hoping.

Regards to all, Peter and Pat Campbell.

ANZAC DAY

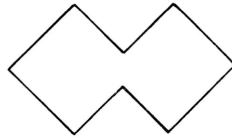
There was a good representation at the Dawn Service and the wreath was placed on the Memorial on behalf of the Association by Rod Dhu and Terry Paull. Those attending were as follows:- G. MacKenzie, C. Turner, Bill Petersen and Pat (Vic.), J. Fowler, Len Bagley, Geo. Fletcher, G. Bagley, Scotty and Elsie Wares.

The March at 10 a.m. was attended by 59 members and was led by the President, G. MacKenzie, and the flag was carried by Mick Morgan. After the March Past the members assembled at the Clarendon Hotel and a total of 67 including visitors enjoyed a delightful luncheon and of course the usual drop of the doings.

The luncheon was again looked after by Jack Carey who once again did an excellent job. The country members attending were T. Paull, E. Bingham, J. Poynton, T. Foster, C. Turner, and D. Hudson. There were two interstate visitors in Allan Hollow from S.A. and Bill Petersen from Victoria.

The Association greatly appreciates the service given by the proprietor of the Clarendon Hotel and we would like to tender out thanks.

All in all it was a good day.



VALE

It is with regret that we record the passing of one of our finest and hardest working members — one who has served us long and well — one who has never complained or been bitter even when life dealt out some really hard knocks. Several times it has appeared that the end was near, but always this frail old friend rallied and carried on gallantly.

A few weeks ago our friend was with us working as usual, cheerfully and well, then suddenly he was gone. This valued friend whose passing is so much mourned, is our old Addressing Machine, working right to its sudden and complete end.

Nobody quite knows the age of this fine old fellow, as he was quite aged when he joined the unit, but for many years he has been churning out the addresses of the members on the Courier wrappers and his work has gone interstate and even overseas.

Occasionally, it has seemed, his time had come, but with a dose of oil, a few thumps and a swear word or two, he always revived to carry on again. Even to such a gallant friend however the end must come, and now — COGS BROKEN, BEARINGS WORN — he must rest in peace.

Years ago when the Association first obtained the machine it was made serviceable by the late Mick Calcutt and it certainly has done a worthwhile job.

Vale, old comrade, vale.

VICTORIAN NEWS

VALE E. HODGSON

It is with deep regret that I have to report that SMASH HODGSON passed away on Sunday 20th April after spending the last four months in hospital and we pass on our deepest sympathy to his wife Joy and family. We will always remember Smash as a good mate and soldier of remarkable courage and his own brand of humour and philosophy and those wonderful letters of his that he had published in the Courier years ago.

The following attended the funeral on Wednesday 23rd April: Ken and Margaret Monk, Bill and Eileen Sharp, Alex and Beryl Boast, John Southwell, Bruce MacLaren, Norm Tillet, Harry Botterill, Max Davies, Jack Fox and George Robinson.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

go away for three months from about middle July, on a driving trip going to Adelaide and Flinders Ranges and Barossa Valley, then to Broken Hill to see Lionel Newton to honour a promise to visit him. Then up North eventually to Port Douglas to visit a boyhood pal of mine. We hope to see as many friends as we can on the way up and back.

Regards to all, Harry and Olive Botterill.

MORNINGTON

Sorry about the cheque Scotty and I am afraid my only excuse is old age. On reading the Courier I went straight to my cheque book only to find I had not even made a cheque out.

Hope to land in Perth around middle June and am looking forward to seeing you. Regards to all, Max Davies.

(P.S. We are all getting old and forgetful, but never mind, you did rectify your mistake — Scotty.)

ANZAC DAY 1980 MELBOURNE

HIGHETT

We had a very pleasant day on Sunday 9th March, when we went to Ken and Margaret Monk's farm at Poowong East for a barbecue lunch. Quite a good roll-up with the following being present: Norm and Fran Tillet, Wilma Tobin, Glad Curran, John and Shirley Southwell, Paul and Nancy Costello, George and Win Humphries, John and Kath Roberts, George and Dot Robinson, Harry and Olive Botterill, Alec and Beryl Boast, George and Dot Veitch, Bill and Pat Peterson with their daughter and son in law and family. We had apologies from several members who had prior engagements.

The weather was a bit chilly for this time of the year but the company more than made up for it and everybody had a good time.

Received the Courier today and was very sad to learn of the passing of Carol Bowers and our sincere sympathy goes to Tony and all the family.

I am having a pretty hectic time this year — Olive and I are going to Singapore and Hong Kong on 25th April for two weeks — 7 days in each place and then I am retiring the end of June. Olive and I are planning to

We assembled under a bright, sunny sky around 10 a.m. and finally marched off at 11 a.m. For some reason or another the 2/2nd were for the first time in memory, the first Company behind the Commando Banner. Along with a great band directly in front we all marched as if we were 20 year-olds again. Apart from being shoved onto the tramlines every so often (mainly by Ken Monk) and side-stepping the horse shit left by the Light Horse who led the March, we arrived tired and puffed at the Shrine of Remembrance (I was anyway!) On the Saluting base at the Shrine, for the first time in Anzac History, our Prime Minister was in attendance to review the parade.

Our reunion after the March was held at the Dorchester (the old "Palms" — near Princess Bridge) along with all Commando units and M & Z Force. We have attended Anzac reunions here before, and all in attendance were of the opinion that it was first class. At \$8 a head, and table service by waiters, with ample food and drink and plenty of room to move around in, we did it in great style.

Amongst those attending the re-union were the following:

Sir Bernard Callinan, Ralph Baldwin Ken Monk, Alf Harper, John Southwell, John Roberts, George Humphries, Max Daives, Leith Cooper, Norm Tillet, Don Fryer, Alec Boast and George Veitch. Harry Botterill, usually present at all our functions, left a day earlier than planned, on a trip to Singapore and Hong Kong. It was great to see Alf Harper and Norm Tillet for the first time in many years on Anzac Day, along with Don Fryer who made the trip down from Albury. After the usual stand-to, a raffle was conducted, and believe it or not, Baldy won the

second prize, on a faked ticket. It was drawn twice — the first time the winner not present (probably in the toilet) and as Baldy was on the spot he received a large travelling bag with many pockets. One pocket for a bottle of whisky, one for rum, and the inside will carry one dozen beers. Should come in handy on his proposed trip to Alice Springs. He is hoping to go on a sentimental journey on the famous Ghan train. For those members of the 2/2nd who did not attend, for many reasons, make an effort next year, you will have a great time with great mates.

Regards, Bruce McLaren.

NEW SOUTH WALES NEWS

DEE WHY

Last Sunday we called in to see our old friend Bob Smith and it was most rewarding to see how well he looks. He has put on some weight and has grown an overall crop of dark black hair — long enough to comb. He is due to come to Sydney and I am confident that he'll be the recipient of good news.

We were up in Newcastle to spend the weekend with our son Barry and daughter in law Margaret. Barry's firm moved him to take part in the development of our new Alumina Smelter. As a result they are in the process of moving house again — an old Luby custom.

Maria arrived home after 3½ years overseas and has finally settled down into a job in Sydney. Peta and Alan are at present touring Europe.

No doubt you will hear from others about Anzac Day and the other get-togethers.

The A.B.C. approached us in regard to some impressions on Timor for their Nationwide feature. Sir Bernard Callinan, Gordon Hart and I stood in for Bill Bennet who happened to be in Tasmania. Unfortunately the programme director reduced the sequence by 9 minutes which spoils a lot of the continuity. I have spoken to the others and they are of the same impression.

On April 27th one of our old Porto friends, Deolinda Encaracao died and was buried on the 30th. Jack Hartley, Gordon Hart, Alan Stephenson and Edith and myself attended the funeral. Whilst there we met up

with Ray Aitkins' old mate Pat de Luz, who has retired and now living at 56 Lamonerie St., Toongabbie, 2146. If you would pass that on to the new Editor he would like to be back on the Courier mailing list.

Beaky told us of your illness and projected operation, so we tender our good wishes for a speedy recovery. Sorry to hear that you have retired from active office in the Association. There comes a time when one must drop at least some of the reins and have a break. I want to express my personal appreciation for all you have done in the various offices you have held over the years. You can enjoy some personal satisfaction in knowing too that your efforts as Editor of the Courier have brought enormous pleasure to members all over Australia. Elsie has also played her part as a writer of many brilliant and inspiring articles which we have enjoyed and are sure she has been a tremendous help to you in the compilation of each edition.

Thanks to you and the committee the Association is in a sound position and we have something that many of the larger units, battalions, etc. would be proud to claim.

Well friends I will close off or I will never get this mailed. God willing this will find you both well and enjoying some of the good things of life.'

Yours, Alan Luby.

EPPING

Anzac Day 1980 was very much overcast as regards the weather.

This year in Sydney it was most fortunate that the rain held off for the March, however I would think that nobody would have cared had they been drenched, such are the drought conditions all over N.S.W.

The actual roll-up of 2/2nd was very good with a total of 28 members on parade, as follows: W. Bennett, A. Luby, J. English, R. Orr, A. Addison, P. Kennealy, L. Collins, T. Field, R. Trengrove, R. Goodacre, J. Hartley, R. Whitby, K. Glover, W. Coker, W. Tomasetti, L. Yates, T. Richards up from Tassie, G. Vandeleur from Brisbane, M. Mannix, M. Jones, K. Craig, J. Peattie, F. O'Neil, R. Hilliard, B. Weir, J. Keenahan, J. Went and yours truly M. Devlin. After the wreath laying at the Cenotaph on behalf of the 2/2nd departed members, quite a few of the lads linked up with the Combined Commando Association for the ceremony at the Shrine of Remembrance in Hyde Park.

At the completion of the March, Jack Hartley in his usual efficient manner catered for the thirsts of all members present at the usual watering hole Hastings Deering. After this there was the usual ferry trip.

Keith and Betty Craig were booked in at the Zebra Motel along with Jack and Marge Peattie, and at the completion of the days activities we rejoined our women folk there to partake of a delicious supper which they alone can provide. On behalf of members present we extend our sincere thanks to those good ladies who assisted in making this mini-reunion a terrific success, namely Betty Craig, her daughter Janette, Edith Luby, June Bennett, Coral Coker, Marge Goodacre, Marge Jones, Betty Devlin, Marge Peattie, Dot Trengrove, Dulcie Latimer, Joan Darge, Bridget Richards, Lorraine and her lovely daughters Linda, Susan, Edna Vandeleur.

There were many members and their wives attended a social evening arranged by Joan Darge at the Kirribilli R.S.L. on the Saturday evening after Anzac Day. Betty and I were unable to attend but from reports it was a great night.

I received a letter from Frank Sharp who was unable to attend the March this year as he was hospitalised. Pleased to say he is on the mend and hopes to return to work soon. Bob Smith was another one missing but I dare say he is taking

things easy after his long illness. Ron Goodacre has also been hospitalised and has made a good recovery. It was good to see Jim English actually participate in the March which is a very good sign.

Betty and I were in the indoor bowls championships at the Epping R.S.L. and whilst waiting our turn to play who should we meet but Don Murray. He was over on a holiday cum business trip. He certainly looks well and sends his regards to all.

I shall close now, regards to all, Mick Devlin.

YOUNG

Scotty, it has been a mad rush in our house over the last three months, but hopefully we will all calm down shortly.

I will start off with the Safari to Orange, which was a really lovely weekend. Keith and I left on the Friday night about 5 p.m. and we drove to Ted and Di Cholerton's just out of Orange where we had dinner, and then left for the Motel about 10 p.m.

Saturday morning we had a bit of a look around the shops, and I was very slow on my feet at that time so it was a slow walk. However it was quite nice. Bill and Coral Coker, and Pat and Ron Hilliard arrived and then Allan and Ede Luby. We all went to Frank and Kath Press for lunch. A most beautiful barbecue, with all the trimmings, and Marj and Ron Goodacre and their son were there also. Ted Cholerton arrived, but Di and the family were unable to come. John Press and his wife and family were also there and of course their was plenty of talk and eating. No good for the girls on diets, but of course, as always, the food was lovely.

Saturday night we went to dinner at the Orange Services Club, and after a lovely meal, we were all glad to have the walk back to the Motel. Di and Ted Cholerton were also able to come to the dinner, as were John and Carol Press. Frank was not well enough to come to the dinner, but he was able to see us all on the Sunday when we again spent the day with Kath and Frank, and had another lovely barbecue. I guess most of us left around the 3 p.m. mark and returned home, except for the Lubys who journeyed on to Gilgandra for a few days before returning home.

Keith's father was in hospital, and then we received word that he could be moved to a nursing home, and he was quite happy to move there. He was very well and bright, but a week later they rang to say he had passed away early on the Tuesday morning 22nd April. We are all very sorry, but are very grateful to know that he suffered no pain, as his end was peaceful.

Keith and I left for Gilgandra on the Wednesday morning at 5 a.m. and Grandfather was buried the next day 24th April, at 11 a.m. We came home later that evening and left for Sydney on the morning flight, Anzac Day, and although Keith did not march he was able to meet up with the 2/2nd at their watering hole, and then go off to lunch with them all coming back to the Zebra Motel for dinner that night.

Janette and I walked down with Keith to see some of the 2/2nd Anzac Day, and had a few words with them all before leaving to stroll back to the Motel and leave the men to their reunion. I was very pleased to see a few folk I hadn't seen for some considerable time, and to meet a few of the people I had not had the pleasure of meeting before, namely Ron Orr from Grafton, W. Tomasetti who now lives at Mt. Victoria, I think it is, Tex Richards from Tasmania was there and it is years since I met up with him. His wife was at the Motel so I had the pleasure of meeting her later in the day. Snow Went who I hadn't seen for a couple of years was there too, and to prove he had been there I had to have my photo taken with Snow and Orr, to prove that he had made the trip. I feel sure I have missed a few names but I am afraid by this time I was very tired, and looking forward to a cuppa, so Jan and I strolled back to the Motel, and there of course the ladies had begun to arrive with food, food and more food. All of it beautiful as they are certainly all good cooks. Joan Darge had been in touch with them all, and of course we had discussed it at Orange as well.

I will try and remember who was at the Unit for a Buffet Tea. Of course all the ladies had been out to lunch and we had been back talking and enjoying each others company most of the afternoon. The boys drifted back in dribs and drabs, and we were all pleased to get together. Keith and Betty Craig, Jack and

Marj Peattie, Jan and Stan Reed, Philip and Lorraine, Susan and Linda the girls, Margory and Merv. Jones, Bill and June Bennett, Ron and Dorothy Trengrove, Allan and Ede Luby, Bill and Coral Coker, Ron and Marj Goodacere, Joan Darge, Tex and Bridget Richards, Don and Dulcie Latimer, George and Edna Vandeleur from Brisbane, Mick and Betty Devlin, Jack Hartley and Tom Yates from Kyogle. So how about that for a roll-up! (hope I haven't missed anyone.)

Saturday morning we all went our different ways to have a look at the shops, a very late start I may add, as we were all too busy talking to go out. Then Ian Peattie and his wife arrived and they were with us for the afternoon. They went to change and Jack and Marj Peattie, with Ian and Judith, went out for dinner and then to a show, while about 30 of us went to the Kirribilli R.S.L. for dinner at 7.30 p.m.

It was a lovely night, and Jack and Maria Hartley were there and it seems a long time since we had seen Maria and had a chat. They came back to the unit for supper along with Joy and Snow and Joan Darge, so again there was plenty of good company.

Joan Darge is off to Hong Kong, Singapore etc. in about five weeks, and she had a violent reaction to the needles. She really was sick over the whole weekend, but kept going. Spent Tuesday in bed and has been to have needles and tablets to stop infection and the reaction. Talking to her yesterday on the phone and she is improving. Says she hopes the trip is worth it all.

I guess you were all at the Anzac Day Service, and I trust that all was well with you too, and that you all had a good day together.

Scotty, I do hope that you and Elsie are keeping well. I know that you are both very busy, but I guess that is what keeps us all going. Give our best wishes to everyone, as we often talk and think about them all. I took our photo album of the Safaris to Sydney, and they were all interested in looking through it. Now only have to add the names to the photos. I have also ordered some from Don Latimer and a couple of the dinner as well, so will be pleased to see them all.

We hope that we will have a fairly quiet time during the winter months,

and then we are going to stay with Joan Darge in September, for a week or so. By that time it should be warmer too. In Sydney at any rate.

I am sorry this is so scrappy but you will have to forgive me this time. You can take out bits and pieces if you want to print it, but you will probably have to reword some of it, as reading it over, it sounds terrible. I know you will be just pleased to hear some of the goings on, and this is the way to let you know.

Best Wishes, Keith and Betty Craig.

NEWCASTLE

Since I last wrote to you I have had some very good news for, as I remember, I was awaiting the outcome of tests done in the hospital in Sydney. The results of the tests determined that the Chemo-therapy was to be suspended (only a given number of doses can be given in the one series). As I had been on the therapy for 10 months I was to continue on tablets and report to the Newcastle Hospital in March for blood x-rays and physical tests. This I have done and was told I had to return to Sydney for a full nuclear examination plus bone marrow tests on the 19th May. All this time I have grown stronger and more pleasing to me is my hair has grown again all over my body. I think I told you before that a new born baby had more hair than I since my treatment. I have now begun to put on weight and have gone from 8 stone to 10 stone 12 lbs.

I had a lovely surprise the other day when I received a card from Slim and Kate James. As soon as possible I will get around to dropping them a few lines. Slim listed all the lads who are now in Mandurah. It looks as if all the lads from the old unit are now residing there. It must be a great place.

Joyce and I hope that when all this mucking about with my old body is completed we will be able to resume our plans and visit you in the West.

Cheerio, Bob and Joyce Smith.

(It is certainly great to hear the good news about your health Bob).

YAGOONA

Easter has come and gone and despite what Good Friday and Easter Sunday signify, people are dying

violently in various parts of the world. The latest figures I saw of Timor are appalling. Indonesia appear to have control, and the fighting has almost ceased. About 120 to 200 thousand people cannot be accounted for, most are presumed dead. These figures add up to between 25 to 30% of the total population of East Timor.

I have read of the Cromwells resettlement of the Irish in the rock strewn areas of Clare and Connaught. May God help the Timorese, because apparently the rest of the world has forgotten them. The Red Cross have opened an appeal for East Timor, any of our members interested in donating could contact the Red Cross in their State. All donation over two dollars are tax deductible.

All well here and Nora sends her regards to all her friends in the West. We were saddened to hear of Carol Bowers death, all the family knew Carol and Tony and send their sympathy to Tony and family.

Alan Luby has a book giving detailed information of all East Timor Postos and areas at the time we were there. This has been donated by Stan Dowman, 60 Smith Avenue, Hurstville. He would like to be on the Courier list. He went to Timor in 1941 organising for the Australian Forces before they arrived there.

Luck and good health to all, Paddy Kennealy.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NEWS

MT. GAMBIER

Was pleased to hear from you through Col Doig ringing you, also more delighted to receive the copies of the Courier. Many times have thought how a lot of the 2/2nd chaps were that had been on Timor.

Sincerely hope that within the next 12-18 months will be in W.A. to visit our son Fred who resides at 31 Flinders Avenue, Hilliards.

A fellow from Mt. Gambier found out about my past and really wanted me to become a member, so firstly to MZ when I was to come in contact with Baldy Baldwin, hence the letter to Col.

A little about myself, was not known to many of the boys as firstly

was with the sigs until after contact with Australia. Kept the wireless on the move (Winnie the War Winner). Later was in charge of horse pack trains (supplies) to wherever and whatever had to go or come until finally evacuated. Had contact with sections and parties over a wide area including 2/2nd and then 2/4th when Voyager ran aground. Then later with Z Force staying only long enough to off load my (Coodas) horses.

Can I become a member of the Association and if so what is the Annual fee and do you accept donations.

Trusting this is not too much trouble and thanking you in anticipation.

Yours, Fred Stevens.

(There is no set annual fee but members usually send a donation.)

QUEENSLAND NEWS

CAMP HILL

Thanks for your yellow slip. Sorry to hear that you have to travel alone. Will see what I can do as regards obtaining a meter girl to care for your needs.

At the present moment we have 83 acceptances which is fairly good so early in the year. Still have not been able to finalize our raffle but have hopes that the permit will go through. Will contact the Courier when things are final.

Regards to yourself and your good wife, Angus MacLachlan.

MACKAY

I wish to advise change of address for the Courier mailing list. I have sold my property in Townsville and am now residing at the above address.

Hope all is well with Association and members. Please find enclosed donation for the Courier and tie bar.

Regards to all, R. Dorham.

BLACKBOY HILL APPEAL

Blackboy Hill, in the foothills of the Darling Range at Greenmount is certainly one of the most important sites associated with Australian Military History. From Blackboy, many Units and their members underwent their final training prior to embarkation to the battlefields of Europe and the Middle East during the Great War.

The Bellevue Sub Branch of the Returned Services League, in conjunction with the Shire of Mundaring have accepted the responsibility of caring for the site which has long since been abandoned.

We therefore have opened an appeal for funds to continue develop-

ment of the commemorative site. Your organisation is respectfully invited to contribute to the appeal with the knowledge and assurance that the commemorative site will eventually be developed into an area worthy of remembering those who passed through the camp.

Contributions should be addressed to the:

**"Blackboy Hill Commemorative Site Advisory Committee",
C/- Bellevue Sub Branch of R.S.L.
Purton Place,
BELLEVUE, W.A. 6056.**

Your consideration in this appeal will be greatly appreciated.

W.E. Gaynor, Secretary

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The President wishes to thank the following members for their donations towards the publication of the Courier:—

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RETURNED COURIERS

Couriers addressed to the following have been returned, address unknown: K. Jones, P. Proctor, L. Webster.

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 PLARLANDS,
 MACKAY 4740~~

~~RITCHIE, J.
 10 HALE FLATS
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